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# NEWMARKET RURAL DISTRICT

in the

Administrative County of Cambridgeshire



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

for

1953



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#### GENERAL STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area: Land 80,856 acres.

Water 245 acres.

Number of Parishes: 22.

Rateable Value: (31.3.54) £69,304.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £260.

Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book: 6,920.

Estimated mid-year Home Population: 20,110.

Census Population 1951: 20,219.

Birth Rate .. .. 16.6

(Corrected) .. .. 18·3

Death Rate .. .. 9.9

(Corrected) .. .. 8.6

Infant Mortality Rate .. 14.9

### MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

# CHAIRMAN

Councillor C. W. L. Woollard.

# COUNCILLORS

J. W. Aves.

H. R. Baker.

A. C. Hardy.

A. S. Kent.

F. Murfitt.

J. L. Newman.

H. Palmer.

C. C. Petch.

H. J. Sadler.

O. Spooner.

A. H. Trinder.

Rev. M. F. Williams.

To the Chairman and Members of the Newmarket Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This report has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/54 dated 12th January, 1954, and the information requested follows closely that which has been required in the two

previous years.

The year has been notable both in the field of personal health and of environmental hygiene. As revealed by the vital statistics there has been a marked rise in the birth rate, 16·6 births per 1,000 population. This figure has only been surpassed on two occasions since the war, namely in 1945 when it was 17·1 and 1947 when it was 18·3. For purposes of comparison with national figures the rate has to be adjusted (as explained in previous reports) when it becomes 18·3 comparing favourably with the figure of 15·5 for England and Wales. The infant mortality rate rose slightly from 10·8 in 1952 to 14·9 deaths under one year per thousand live births, this year. These figures compare favourably with the district's experience in the past and with national figures. The general death rate is 9·9 deaths per thousand population and is the lowest recorded since 1940 and is also below the ten yearly averages since the epoch 1891/1900 which were recorded in my 1951 report. Though it is very pleasing to record such results as the foregoing, it remains to be seen if the figures continue at these levels in future years.

Infectious disease troubled the district but little and such occurrences as there were are recorded in the appropriate section of the report. No cases of dysentery were reported and only one case of food poisoning was notified. The success or otherwise of preventing the spread of harmful bowel organisms in the community (both dysentery and food poisoning are caused by such germs) is largely dependant upon a high standard of personal hygiene, and in particular the careful washing of the hands after visiting the toilet. Experience in controlling outbreaks of dysentery and food poisoning shows

that this simple hygienic rule is of the utmost value as a preventive measure.

During the year the department undertook a survey of the hutted camps at Bottisham and Snailwell. The Council has most wisely undertaken to permit no further lettings and to demolish the huts as they become vacant. The total of 137 permanent houses completed during the year is the largest number built in any one year since the war and is a most satisfactory advance in the building programme. Between 1945 and 1951, 411 permanent houses were built by the Council; with those completed by the 31st December, 1952, and 1953, a total of 620 permanent houses has now been completed since the war. The latest review of the housing waiting list shows that there are still 585 applicants. The rural housing survey indicates at least the presence of 222 category 5 houses with a further probable 700 of low standard. In the new year fresh legislation is expected with regard to housing which may be of assistance in preserving existing dwellings, but many of the sub-standard houses being poorly planned and owing to the nature of the materials used in their construction, are only suitable for demolition. The Council's continued policy of making full use of those sections of the Housing Act, 1936, relating to unfit houses has greatly helped in preventing the further use for human habitation of properties long past redemption.

The regional water scheme is now in full operation and no parish is without a pure mains water

supply. Good progress is being made with connections of properties to the new mains.

During the year no further progress was made with regard to starting the Soham Sewerage Scheme but early in 1954 the Ministry awarded a starting date of June 1st for this long awaited scheme. Another welcome advance in parish sewerage schemes has come about by the acquisition of the R.A.F. sewerage works at Bottisham and the Ministry has now given permission for the Council to proceed with the Bottisham Sewerage Scheme.

The Chairman and members of the public health committee have given me great support and encouragement throughout the year and to them I express my thanks. I record also my gratitude to Mr. Couperthwaite, chief sanitary inspector, and his colleagues for their valuable assistance throughout the year

the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

P. A. TYSER, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

# VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

(The mid-year home population is used for the statistical calculations).

Live	e Births.								MALE		FEMAL	E	TOTAL
	Legitimate Illegitimate	• •	• •	• •		• •	• •		170		153 5		323 11
	Totals	• •	• •		• •	• •	• •	• •	176		158		334
Birt	th rate per thou th rate correcte th rate per thou	d by co	omparal	bility f	actor (1	l·10)			• •	• •		• •	16·6 18·3 15·5
Stil	lbirths.												
									MALE		FEMAL	E	TOTAL
	Legitimate	• •	• •		• •		• •		1		3		4
	Illegitimate	• •	• •			* 4	• •	• •	_		_		_
											<del></del>		
	Totals	40 64	• •		** 9		• •		1		3		4
	e per thousand					• •	• •	• •	• •	• •			11.8
	e per thousand					· ·		• •	• •	• •			0.19
Kat	e per thousand	popula	ation (E	nglanc	ana w	vaies)	• •	• •	• •		• •	• •	0.35
D	. •												
Dea	iths.								MALE		FEMAL	E	Total
							`				96	E	
Dea	th rate per tho	usand (	estimat	ed non	ulation				104				200 9·9
	th rate correcte			F -7-						• •	• •	• •	8.6
	th rate per tho						ales)				• •		11.4
Infa	ant Mortality.	Deat	hs of in	fants i	inder o	ne year	of age	•	1\1r		Τ	_	T
	<b>T</b>								MALE		FEMAL	E	TOTAL
	Legitimate	• •	• •	• •	• •		• •	• •	$\frac{2}{1}(2)$		2(1)		4 (3)
	Illegitimate	• •		• •		• •	• •	• •	1				1
	Totals								3 (2)		2 (1)		5 (3)
	Totais	• •	• •	0 0	• •	• •	• •	• •			<u> </u>		

(Deaths of infants under four weeks of age are shown in brackets).

Infant Mortality Rate (Infant deat	ths under	one ye	ar per	thousai	nd live	births)	0 4	• •	14.9
Infant Mortality Rate (England an	d Wales)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	26.8
Neonatal Mortality Rate (Infant de	eaths und	der four	weeks	per the	ousand	live bi	rths)	• •	8.9
Legitimate Infant deaths per thous	sand legit	timate l	ive bir	ths	• •		• •	• •	12.4
Illegitimate Infant deaths	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	1
Maternal Deaths (Deaths ascribed	to pregna	ancy, cł	nildbirt	h and a	bortio	n)	• •	• •	1
Deaths from cancer (all ages)			• •		0 9		• •		36
Deaths from tuberculosis (all ages)-	—Respira	atory	• •	• •			• •		Nil
	Non-R	espirato	ory	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	Nil
Deaths from whooping cough	• •	• •	• •	ø ë	• •	• •	• •	• •	Nil
Deaths from measles	• •	• •	• •	• •	o 4	• •	• •	• *	Nil
Deaths from pneumonia	• •	• •	• •	• •	<b>*</b> *	• •	• •	• •	6
Deaths from influenza	<b>*</b> 3	• •			• •	• •	• •		., 3
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 year	ars)	t 4	e .		• •	• •	• •		Nil

# CERTAIN COMPARATIVE RATES.

			1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
*BIRTH RATE			16.0	15.6	15.4	13.4	13.9	16.6
*DEATH RATE	• •	• •	11.0	12.9	12.1	12.8	12.1	9.9
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	• •		8.9	15.6	41.0	22.1	10.8	14.9
			(3)	(5)	(13)	(6)	(3)	(5)

<sup>\*</sup>The above rates are uncorrected so that they are comparable from year to year. The figures in brackets are the number of infant deaths in each year.

## TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS.

								MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 1 year			0.4	er 16	• ,		• •	3	2	5
1 and under 2	\$ &	,	μ			N 4	• •	_	-	
2 and under 5	• •	1 - 1					* *	1	_	1
5 and under 15	• •	• .	• •	φ *		e c	• •	1	1	2
15 and under 25	• •			d	* 4	N p	50 to	-	1	1
25 and under 35	• •	4 7	• •	• '				1	-	1
35 and under 45			• "			• •		1	4	5
45 and under 55	• •			9 u		• •	v +	5	7	12
55 and under 65				• •		b .	14 ~	9	10	19
65 and under 75		, ,	. ,	4 4				20	22	42
75 and over	• •		• •	4 4	• •		₽ Ų	63	49	112
Totals		* .						104	. 96	200

# GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### Medical Officer of Health.

"The Cambridgeshire United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Order 1951" provides for the appointment of a medical officer of health to the Chesterton, Newmarket and South Cambridgeshire Rural District Councils. Under present arrangements the officer is also appointed deputy county and school medical officer to the Cambridgeshire County Council.

#### Sanitary Inspectors.

There have been no changes in the staff during the year.

W. H. Couperthwaite, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I.

D. Howells, A.M.I.S.E., A.R.San.I.

F. H. Mason, A.R.San.I.

#### Laboratory Facilities.

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, undertake bacteriological and biological examinations of milk and bacteriological examinations of water samples, and all necessary examinations in cases of infectious diseases.

#### Hospitals.

There are no General Hospitals situated in the area. Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are sent to Cambridge City Isolation Hospital or to the Exning Isolation Hospital.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There have been no major epidemics during the year, indeed, as evidenced by the formal notifications sent to me, the district has kept remarkably free from infections.

The number of cases of *measles* and *whooping cough* notified is amongst some of the lowest recorded. No cases of *diphtheria*, *poliomyelitis* or *dysentery* occurred.

Scarlet Fever.

Eight cases were notified this year, the same number as in the previous year. The cases were mild and were scattered throughout the year.

Food Poisoning.

One case was brought to my notice during the year of a school child infected with Salmonella typhi-murium. It is believed the infection was acquired in another district but the manner in which the child became infected was not determined.

In addition to the formal notifications received from medical practitioners under Section 144 of the Public Health Act, 1936, there has been a system in force for some years whereby I receive informal notifications from head teachers of cases of infectious disease occurring amongst school children. I therefore obtain some information with regard to the prevalence of non-notifiable diseases such as mumps, german measles and chickenpox for example.

# NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS, 1953.

Diphtheria Totals	C	7	- 13	18	- 21	_ 7	∞		1	- 72	- 169
Paratyphoid D		ſ	I	I	I	1	l		ı	1	-
Measles		<b>→</b>	7	15	10	ıc	7	<del></del>	7	48	94
Acute Poliomyelitis aralytic Non-Paralytic		ſ	l	I	I	1	ı	l	ı	ı	1
Acute Po Paralytic		1	ı	ı	I	I	ı	I	ı	Ι,	7
Whooping Cough	-	-	80	ಣ	$\infty$	<del></del>	ı	1	ı	16	64
Scarlet Fever		1	တ	I	ಣ	y(	şd	I	-	$\infty$	$\infty$
Age in Years	IInder 1	··· r rango	1 - 2	8 - 8 - 8 - 8 - 8 - 8 - 8 - 8 - 8 - 8 -	5 - 9	10 — 14	15 — 24	25 and over	Age unknown	TOTALS	1952 Totals

Totals	4	-	$\vdash$	<b>C1</b>	co	1		9
Meningococcal Infection	1	I	I	I	I	I	I	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	ſ	1	I	ſ	I	ſ	l	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	I	ı	I	1	I	-	ſ	1
Food	ı	П		ı	I	l	1	
Erysipelas	l	I	ı	I	I	I	1	
Dysentery	ı	1	ı	I	I	ı	1	
Acute Pneumonia	4	1		67	8	ſ	10	3
Age in Years	Under 5	5 — 14	15 — 44	45 — 64	65 and over	Age unknown	Totals	1952 Totals

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

Annual Case Incidence and Deaths, 1943-1953.

	1953	ă	Ç I		16	ľ
	Total	1 201	2		390	4
	1952	70	10		64	ı
	1951	176			101	1
	1950	·	11		51	1
Years	1949	409	1 1		15	l
Ye	1948	r.	6		52	
	1947	143	140		46	1
_	1946	38			32	1
_	1945	134	FOT		83	2
_	1944	63	3   1		2	1
	1943	949	CE7 1		6	1
	Disease	MEASLES	Deaths	Whooping	Cases	Deaths

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

#### Section 47.

No action was required under this Section during the year.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 50.

No action was required under this Section during the year.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

Twelve cases of respiratory tuberculosis and two cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified for the first time during the year. Four respiratory cases transferred to the district had previously been notified in other areas.

On balance at the end of the year there were seven less respiratory and eleven less non-respiratory cases on the register.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

Non-Kespiratory Male Female	ry Total le Male Female	l emale
21 29	72	74
	$\infty$	9
	1	1
1	<b>с</b>	<del></del>
	1	1
2 9	19	17
16 23	. 64	64
Male Fema 21 29 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.
RESPIRATORY AND NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS
CASES ON REGISTER AT 31.12.53.

				1				
Grand Total	06	24	32	26	13	S	8	128
Total Non-Resn	100		9	8	8		3	39
Resn		16	26	23	10	4	ıo	89
Female Non-Resp	9		4	2			5	23
Fen	4	10	15	9	8	I	8	41
Male Non-Resp	6		2		5	1	-	16
M Resp.		9	11	17	7	4	67	48
Age Group	0 — 15	15 — 25	25 — 35	35 — 45	45 — 55	55 — 65	65 and over	TOTALS

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

# TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE AND SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Slaughter houses an	d Bute	chers'	shops	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	
Bakehouses				• •		• •			• •		• •	
Fried fish shops and	lother	prem	ises reg	istered	under	Section	14, Fo	od and	l Drugs	Act,	1938	
Miscellaneous food I	premise	es	• •	• •			• •	• •	• •		• •	
Licensed premises	• •			• •	• •	• •	• •		• •		• •	
Shops		• •		• •	• •		• •	• •				9
Knacker's Yard	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •		• •	• •	• •	• •	
Factories (excluding	g bakel	nouses	s)					• •	• •	• •	• •	
Dairies	• •	• •		• •	• •			• •	• •	• •	• •	
Public Cleansing	• •			• •	• •	• •		• •	• •	• •	• •	
Infectious Diseases	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •			• •	• •	• •	• •	
Rooms disinfected	• •	• •		• •				• •	• •	• 0	• •	
Drainage and sewer	age	• •	• •	• •	• •		• •		• •		• •	
Sewage Disposal Wo	orks		• •	• •				• •	• •	• •	• •	
Schools		٠.		• •	• •	• •		. ,	• •	• •		
Moveable Dwellings	• 4	le ∳	• •		• •		• •				• •	
Dwellinghouses			• •		• •						• •	
Re-inspection of Dw	velling	house	es	• •	0 7			• •			• •	
Housing Act, 1949 (	re Imp	orovei	ment Gr	ants)		• •	• 1	• •	• •		• •	
Nuisances	• •	• •	• •		• •		• •		• •		• •	
Building Byelaws—	new di	rains	tested	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •			
	other i			• •					• •		• •	4
Miscellaneous	• •			• •			• •		• •	• •	• •	4
Building Licence in	vestiga			• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •		• •	
Dangerous Building	O			• •	<b>0</b> •		• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	
												2,
												=
Number of samples	taken	•										
ranimor or builtpics	TTY											

 Water ..
 ..
 75

 Milk ..
 ..
 33

 Ice Cream ..
 14

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the works included in the Council's Regional Water Scheme were completed by July. Pumping commenced at the Chippenham Station in April and the villages of Soham, Fordham, Isleham, Chippenham and Snailwell have since been supplied from the new station. Pumping ceased at the Soham Station as soon as the supply from Chippenham was available and the four villages wholly or partly hitherto supplied from Swaffham Prior were transferred to the Chippenham Station. Pumping commenced at the Booster Station in August and since that date the whole of the high level area has, with the exception of occasional pumping at the Saxon Street Station, been supplied from Chippenham via the Booster Station.

Figures giving the quantity of water pumped at the various stations are not included in this report as the recording meter was not installed at Chippenham until the autumn; full details will be given in the report for next year.

Sampling arrangements continued as indicated in last year's report—samples for bacteriological examination being taken at monthly intervals and samples for detailed chemical analysis, quarterly. The typical results obtained did not substantially differ from those set out in previous reports.

Seventy-two samples were taken during the year and all were reported to be satisfactory.

All public supplies are chlorinated, the arrangements being as indicated in previous reports, with routine tests for residual chlorine being carried out at all stations.

The following particulars relate to the various parishes supplied from the public water mains and indicate the number of houses and estimated population supplied by connections to the houses or by standpipes.

Parish	No. of inhabited houses according	1	11			
TARISII	to rate book	mains water available	No. of Houses	Est. Pop.	No. of Houses	Est. Pop.
Ashley	161 277 75 112 842 482 135 202 558 491 80 140 228 1,572 196 226 312 98	98 79 64 64 86 89 83 81 91 97 60 71 87 94 93 77 85 45	51 180 38 54 631 379 37 138 458 349 48 69 119 1,464 102 144 193 43	141 599 138 165 1,971 964 124 438 1,565 1,057 139 242 384 5,061 339 463 594 154	108 37 10 18 93 53 74 28 55 133 — 41 78 15 71 32 74 —	319 124 37 42 240 101 265 106 139 372 — 154 222 59 216 114 215 —
Westley Wicken	49 239 344	84 87 79	40 209 240	138 679 761	33	9 107
	6,920		4,805	16,116	935	2,841

#### Private Water Supplies.

Three samples taken from private supplies were reported as fit for drinking purposes.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Although no indication of a starting date for the Soham Scheme was given for the year under review, official intimation was received early in 1954 from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government stating that tenders could now be invited for both the Soham and Bottisham Schemes.

The nine small sewage treatment plants on Council housing estates were regularly visited and the breakdowns that occurred were either due to electrical trouble or difficulties regarding final disposal of effluent.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

#### Refuse Collection and Salvage.

A foreman and seven men operating a 13 cubic yard side loading vehicle and an old 12 cubic yard barrier loading vehicle were wholly employed on the collection and disposal of household refuse and salvage.

Collections were made at weekly intervals in Soham and areas adjoining Newmarket and at fortnightly intervals in the remaining parishes.

Disposal was by controlled tipping in a pit at Burwell Broads. Owing to a long spell of sick leave among the men the tip was not maintained in its usual condition but rodents and insects were effectively controlled. The approach to this pit is not good and expenditure on maintenance and repair of the access road was essential.

The following table shows the quantity of salvaged materials sold during the financial year and the income obtained therefrom:—

		Tons	cwts.	qrs.	Income £ s. d.
Waste paper	• •	71	3	0	423 3 6
Ferrous Metals	• •	17	8	1	65 7 11
Non-Ferrous Metals		3	11	1	33 5 7
Rags and Sacking	• •	3	8	1	<b>7</b> 2 14 1
Bones	• •		7	3	2 5 10
Sundries	• •				4 4 0
Totals	• •	95	18	2	601 0 11

#### Cesspool Emptying Service.

Two men, operating an 1,100 gallon cesspool emptying vehicle were wholly employed on this service.

During the year 1,308 loads were removed from 712 cesspools. 209 of the cesspools were on private premises and the remainder on Council properties.

The charges for private premises are made in accordance with the following scale:—
1st load, 30/-.

2nd load on the same occasion, 15/-.

A special charge of £1 is made where the amount removed is 550 gallons or less.

Cesspool contents have been discharged by agreement over agricultural land in various parts of the district, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to find suitable dumping places.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

#### Shops Act, 1950.

All shops in the district are regularly visited and 202 inspections were made during the year.

#### Eradication of Bed Bugs and other Vermin.

For the third successive year it is pleasing to record that no premises were found to be infested with bed bugs. One dwelling house infested with fleas was satisfactorily treated with D.D.T.

#### Camping Sites, etc.

Nine new licences were granted for individual moveable dwellings and nine similar licences renewed.

No licences were issued authorising the use of land as camping sites.

The majority of the dwellings are modern type caravans with adequate sanitary and water supply arrangements. Twenty-eight visits were made during the year, but no action for the prevention of nuisances was found to be necessary.

#### Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district.

#### Schools.

Two visits were made to schools during the year in connection with environmental problems. Although many schools still have pail closets there have been conversions to flush lavatories. It is hoped, now that every village has a piped water supply available, that wherever possible pail closets will be replaced.

#### Offensive Trades.

There are no premises registered for offensive trades in the district.

#### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

All slaughtermen in the area are licensed and every effort is made to secure the humane slaughter of animals.

All applications are carefully scrutinised and investigated and thirty-one Slaughtermen's licences were renewed during the year.

#### Factories.

Of the sixty-four factory premises in the district, fifty-eight use mechanical power in connection with the processes carried on.

All factory premises are regularly inspected and 61 visits were made during the year. One factory was cleansed as a result of informal action but no statutory action was found to be necessary.

No certificates were issued under Section 34 of the Act, specifying the means of escape in case of fire.

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Rodent Operator makes a careful survey of all premises including agricultural land in each parish in accordance with a predetermined plan and the number of premises visited was 1,752 (excluding re-inspections made to determine whether the infestation had been abated). 102 premises were found to be infested with rats or mice, but only 8 of these were serious; 121 premises were treated by the Rodent Operator, and at least 1,700 rats were killed.

The occupiers of infested premises proved co-operative and no statutory action was required. The occupiers of premises treated by the Rodent Operator are charged at the rate of 6/- per hour for his services.

#### HOUSING.

#### Rural Housing Survey.

The numbers of houses in the various categories as at 31.12.53 were as follows:—

Сат. 1	CAT. 2.	CAT. 3	Сат. 5	TOTAL
555	1,359	1,465	222	3,601

From the information obtained from the Survey it is obvious that the housing problem is still a long way from complete solution as at least 222 houses require immediate demolition and probably a further 700 low standard houses will have to be replaced.

#### Council Houses.

One hundred and thirty-seven new houses were completed during the year, making a total of 1,369 houses owned by the Council.

The number of applicants for Council Houses on the waiting list at the end of the year was 585.

#### Temporary Hutments.

The management of the temporary hutments at Bottisham and Snailwell again presented special difficulties due to the unhealthy conditions caused by the flimsy construction of the buildings.

It is the Council's policy to close these hutments as and when they become vacant.

#### General.

Number of dwelling houses inspected			• •	• •	• •	• •		299
Number of re-inspections made			• •	• •	• •	• •		53
Number of informal notices served	• •	0 2				• •	• •	5
Number of houses reconditioned	• •	• •	• •	• •		• •	• •	6
Number of new permanent houses completed during the year—								
By the local authority	• •		• •		• •	• •	• •	137
By private enterprise	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	52
Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation and represented								
under Section 11 of the Housing A	ct, 193	36	• •	• •	• •		• •	20
Number of Demolition Orders made						• •	26	
Number of premises demolished under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936						• •	20	

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### Milk Supply.

Two dairies and eight distributors are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949. Five inspections were made of the registered dairies and the premises were found to be satisfactory.

One dealer's and five supplementary licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and three dealers' and five supplementary licences under the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

#### Sampling.

Thirty-three samples were taken, twenty-seven from schools and six from farms or in course of delivery. The six samples taken for biological examination were reported to be free from the organisms of tuberculosis.

With the exception of two, all the samples of school milk were reported to conform to the standard required for pasteurised milk. As a result of action taken in the case of the unsatisfactory samples, subsequent samples taken from the same source proved to be satisfactory.

#### Meat and Other Foods.

Slaughtering arrangements continued as set out in previous reports, all animals, with the exception of a small number of pigs, being slaughtered at the Government Abattoir within the Newmarket Urban District. The Urban District Council's inspector was assisted on numerous occasions in inspection work at the abattoir.

Seventeen slaughterhouse licences were renewed during the year.

101 inspections of slaughterhouses and butchers' shops were made. The following is a list of meat condemned during the year:—

381 lbs. Frozen Beef		• •	• •	Bone Taint
1 Side of Beef	• •		• •	do.
$36\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Mutton	• •			Decomposition
27 lbs. Pork		• •	• •	do.
1 Pig and Offal			• •	Uraemia

Regular inspection is made of premises where foodstuffs are stored or exposed for sale and the following is a summary of the foodstuffs condemned:—

177 tins of various foodstuffs .. Blown or otherwise unfit. 8 cwts. Potatoes ... Winter Rot.

#### Premises on which Food is prepared.

Seventy-five premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the following purposes:—

Manufacture or sale of preserv	• •	33		
Sale of ice Cream	• •		• •	41
Manufacture of ice Cream		• •	• •	1

Regular inspections of all premises have been carried out and 110 visits were made during the year.

#### Byelaws.

The byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are strictly enforced and regular inspection is made of all premises where food is prepared or sold.

#### Ice Cream—Sampling.

Fourteen samples of ice cream were sent to the Public Health Laboratory and subjected to Methylene Blue Test.

Thirteen of the samples were Grade 1 and one Grade 3.

The Grade 3 sample was manufactured outside the district and the local sanitary authority were requested to investigate the manufacturing arrangements. The retailer concerned was impressed with the necessity for great care to be used in handling and storing the ice cream and a further sample proved satisfactory.

#### Bakehouses.

Seventy-nine visits have been made to the twenty bakehouse premises in the district.

All the bakehouse premises were cleaned and limewashed or painted at regular intervals and have been very satisfactorily maintained.

Sixty-four routine inspections have been made of the licensed premises in the district.

As a result of informal action new sanitary accommodation was provided at two premises and proper glass washing facilities installed at two premises.



